

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-RS-5-32-20

Issued at: Dillingham, Thursday, July 9, 2020

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Saturday, July 11, 2020

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Thursday,
December 31, 2020, unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order increases the bag and possession limit for sockeye salmon from five to ten fish in all waters of the Alagnak, Naknek, Nushagak-Mulchatna, and Wood River drainages. The bag and possession limit for other salmon, except king, sockeye salmon, and coho salmon on the Alagnak River, remains at five fish. These limits are in combination with the more liberal limit for sockeye salmon.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 67.022. (f)(2) is superseded and (d) (1) (C), (g) (7), (h) (5) are added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Saturday, July 11 through 11:59 p.m. Thursday, December 31, 2020:

5 AAC 67.022. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means in the Bristol Bay area.

- (d) In the Naknek River drainage, the following special provisions apply:
 - (1) in the Naknek River drainage, unless otherwise specified in this subsection,
 - (C) the bag and possession limit for sockeye salmon is ten fish; the bag and possession limit for other salmon, other than king salmon, is five fish;
- (f) In the Alagnak River drainage, the following special provisions apply:
 - (2) the bag and possession limit for salmon, other than king salmon, is ten fish with no size limit; of which only three fish may be coho salmon, and five fish may be chum or pink salmon;
- (g) In the Nushagak River drainage, excluding the Wood River drainage, and unless otherwise specified in 5 AAC 06.361 or 5 AAC 06.368, the following special provisions apply:
 - (7) the bag and possession limit for sockeye salmon is ten fish; the bag and possession limit for other salmon, other than king salmon, is five fish;
- (h) In the Wood River drainage, the following special provisions apply:
 - (5) the bag and possession limit for sockeye salmon is ten fish; the bag and possession limit for other salmon, other than king salmon, is five fish;

Douglas Vincent-Lang
Commissioner

By delegation to: _____

Lee K. Borden
Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The escapement of sockeye salmon in the Alagnak, Naknek, Nushagak, and Wood rivers is currently projected to exceed the respective escapement goals of 210,000, 800,000 to 2,000,000, 370,000 to 900,000, and 700,000 to 1,800,000 fish. Through July 8, 365,010 sockeye salmon have been counted on the Alagnak River; 2,049,498 sockeye salmon have been counted on the Naknek River; 704,973 sockeye salmon have been counted on the Nushagak River, and 978,984 sockeye salmon have been counted on the Wood River. As provided by 5 AAC 75.003 Emergency Order Authority (2)(A), the commissioner may increase sport fish bag and possession limits when the total escapement is projected to exceed the escapement goal and the total harvest under the increased bag and possession limit will not reduce the escapement below the goal range. Therefore, it is warranted to increase the bag and possession limit for sockeye salmon in the Alagnak, Naknek, Nushagak-Mulchatna and Wood River sport fisheries.

DISTRIBUTION:

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region 2 Office of Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, AK 99518, (907) 267-2218 and the Bristol Bay Area Office of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, P.O. Box 230, Dillingham, AK 99576, (907) 842-2427.